

V. REMARKS

The drawing figures are objected for failing to provide a legend such as "Prior Art". The attached Replacement Sheets of Drawing Figures 14-16 are filed herewith to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

It is noted that the Office Action originally objects to Figures "13"-16 and later in this paragraph refers to Figures "14"-16. The Office Action specifically notes that Figures "14"-16 should be labeled as Prior Art as indicated in the Description of the Related Art. Applicants would like to point out that the Description of the Related Art only refers to Figures 14-16 while Figure 13 is referred to in the Description of Preferred Embodiments, for instance, in paragraph 2 on page 39. Therefore, only Figures 14-16 have been designated Prior Art.

Claims 1 and 3 are objected to under 35 USC 112 for allegedly failing to particularly point out in distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention. It is respectfully submitted that the term "successively" is a term well known by one of ordinary skill in the art. This term is specifically used in the specification, particularly in paragraphs 1 and 2 on page 42, to provide, in part, meaning and intent in view of the present invention. As a result, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this objection.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As indicated in the Office Action, claims 7-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 6 is amended in this manner by incorporating the features of claim 7, now canceled, and, as a result, claim 6 is now in condition for allowance. Furthermore, claims 8, 9 and 12 (which originally depended from claim 6) are amended as independent claims by incorporating the features of claim 6. As a result,

claims 6 and 8-12 are in condition for allowance.

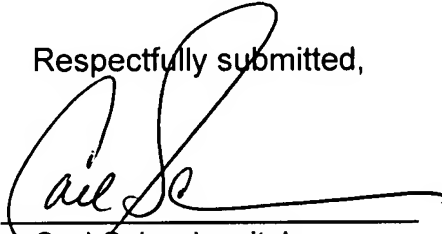
Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance over the prior art of record. Therefore, this Amendment is believed to be a complete response to the outstanding Office Action.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Date: November 19, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure(s): Amendment Transmittal
 Replacement Sheets of Drawing Figures 14-16

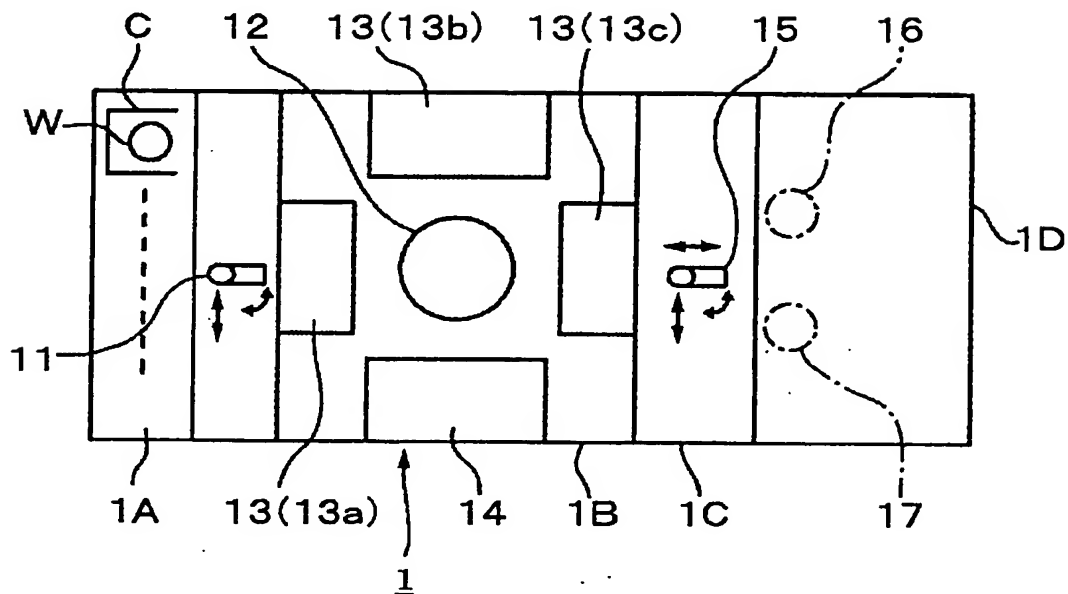


FIG.14 *Prior Art*

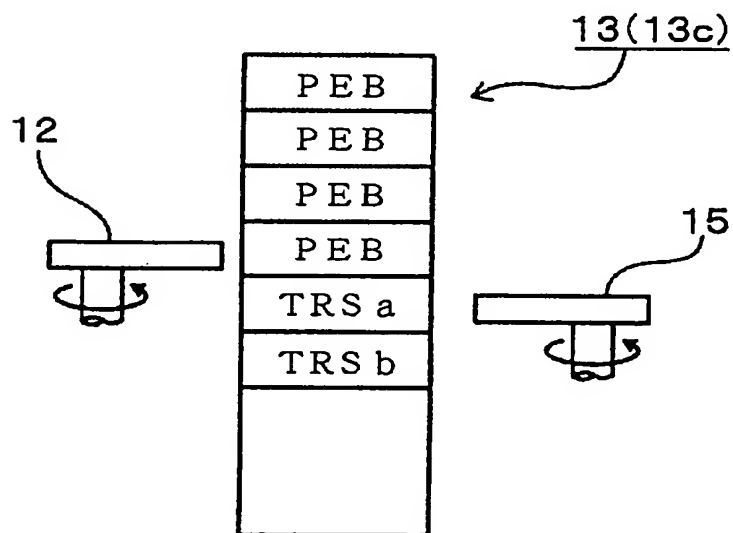


FIG.15 *Prior Art*

